

## Amended claims:

1. A device (1) for slicing food products in block form  
with a blade (2), in which the food product block may  
5 be raised reversibly with a rocking loading arm (3)  
from a first into a second position (4, 5),  
characterised in that the rocking loading arm (3) is  
curved at least in the slicing position (5) and in  
that the rocking loading arm (3) is oriented  
10 substantially horizontally in the loading position.
2. A device according to claim 1, characterised in that  
the first position is the loading position (4) and the  
second is the slicing position (5).
- 15 3. A device according to claim 1 or claim 2,  
characterised in that the rocking loading arm (3) is  
inclined substantially relative to horizontal in the  
slicing position (5).
- 20 4. A device according to any one of the preceding claims,  
characterised in that the rocking loading arm (3) is  
curved in the slicing position (5).
- 25 5. A device according to any one of the preceding claims,  
characterised in that the rocking loading arm (3)  
comprises at least one joint (6).
- 30 6. A device according to any one of the preceding claims,  
characterised in that the rocking loading arm (3)  
comprises guide rolls (7).

7. A device according to any one of claims 1-6, characterised in that the rocking loading arm comprises one or more preferably flexible conveyor belts.
- 5 8. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the rocking loading arm (3) comprises a limit stop (8) at one end for the food product block.
- 10 9. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that a plurality of food product blocks may be sliced in parallel.
- 15 10. A device according to claim 9, characterised in that the food product blocks are each guided in a product track, these being arranged in parallel on the rocking loading arm.
- 20 11. A device according to claim 10, characterised in that lateral guide elements are arranged between the product tracks.
- 25 12. A method of slicing at least one food product block, wherein the food product block is transferred from a loading into a slicing position prior to slicing using a rocking loading arm, wherein the shape of the rocking loading arm is modified on transfer from one position to the other, characterised in that the food product block is bent on transfer of the rocking
- 30 loading arm.

13. A method according to claim 12, characterised in that the rocking loading arm is curved perpendicularly to the conveying direction of the food product blocks.